

82. (Amended) The method of claim 143, further comprising the steps of reassessing the presence of a hemodynamically compromising malfunction at predetermined intervals and delivering a further series of electrical current pulses, the electrical current pulses having a voltage less than a normal defibrillation voltage level, if a hemodynamically compromising malfunction is present.

83. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the other medical intervention provided is a defibrillation shock.

84. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the step of delivering a series of pulses within the patient's body, the series including at least one pulse having a voltage of a normal defibrillation voltage level is performed before the step of delivering electrical current pulses through the patient's body, the electrical current pulses having a voltage less than a normal defibrillation voltage level.

85. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the step of delivering electrical current pulses through the patient's body, the electrical current pulses having a voltage less than a normal defibrillation voltage level, is performed before the step of delivering a series of pulses within the patient's body, the series including at least one pulse having a voltage of a normal defibrillation voltage level.

87. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the positioning step includes positioning the plurality of electrodes proximate portions of the patient's heart.

88. (Amended) The method of claim 143, further comprising the step of providing pressure sensing means for detecting the presence of a hemodynamically compromising malfunction in the patient.

89. (Amended) The method of claim 143, further comprising the steps of monitoring cardiac output and adjusting the electrical current pulse with respect to amplitude to maintain a predetermined level of cardiac output.

90. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are timed to coincide with the natural pumping of the patient's atria.

91. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein a plurality of the electrical current pulses have rounded edges.

92. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein electrical current pulses are delivered at a level to maintain cardiac output for at least about 30 minutes.

93. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are delivered at a rate between about 60 and 200 beats per minute.

94. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are delivered at a rate of less than about 200 pulses per minute.

95. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are between 2 and 100 ms in width.

96. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are between 2 and 50 ms in width.

97. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses comprise pulses which are greater than about 140 mA.

98. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses each comprise a train of at least 10 narrow pulses.

99. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current each comprise several smaller pulses.

100. (Amended) The method of claim 143, further comprising the step of forming a plurality of the electrical current pulses as a train of up to 50 narrow pulses.

101. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are delivered at a voltage of between 10 and 350 volts.

102. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are delivered at a voltage of between 50 and 200 volts.

103. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are delivered at a voltage of greater than 20 volts.

104. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are delivered at a voltage of less than about 200 volts.

105. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the electrical current pulses are delivered at a voltage of less than about 350 volts.

106. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the step of delivering electrical current pulses comprises delivery of a plurality of pulses each of which are greater than about 250mA.

107. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the hemodynamically compromising malfunction relates to an absence of cardiac contraction.

108. (Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein the hemodynamically compromising malfunction is an arrhythmia.

113. (Amended) The method of claim 143, further comprising the step of delivering a series of electrical current pulses through the patient's body, each pulse of the series having a voltage less than a normal defibrillation voltage level, after detecting the hemodynamically compromising malfunction but before delivering the series of pulses having at least one pulse having a voltage of a normal defibrillation voltage level.

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114. (Amended) The method of claim 143, further comprising the step of electronically interfacing the hemodynamically compromising malfunction detector with the other medical intervention.

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Please add new claim 143 as follows:

143. (New) A method for forcing cardiac output during hemodynamically compromising malfunction in a patient, comprising the steps of:

- (a) positioning a plurality of electrodes to enable delivery of electrical pulses which will be transmitted within the patient's body;
- (b) providing circuitry for detecting the presence of a hemodynamically compromising malfunction in the patient;
- (c) detecting the presence of a hemodynamically compromising malfunction in the patient;
- (d) delivering a series of pulses through the patient's body, the series including at least one pulse having a voltage of a normal defibrillation voltage level; and
- (e) delivering electrical current pulses through the patient's body, the electrical current pulses having a voltage less than a normal defibrillation voltage level, to force contraction in the patient's muscles and to facilitate a minimum level of cardiac output until cessation of the hemodynamically compromising malfunction or until other medical intervention is provided.